

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI  
WESTERN DIVISION**

**MCKENZI TAYLOR, individually and on  
behalf of all others similarly situated,**

*Plaintiff,*

**vs.**

**KC VIN, LLC d/b/a PIZZA BAR**

*Defendant.*

**Case No.:**

**NOTICE OF REMOVAL**

COMES NOW Defendant KC Vin, LLC d/b/a Pizza Bar (“Pizza Bar”), by and through its counsel, Foland, Wickens, Roper, Hofer & Crawford, P.C., and respectfully requests that this action be removed from the Circuit Court of Jackson County, Missouri to the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri under 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a) on the grounds of federal question jurisdiction, 28 U.S.C. § 1331.<sup>1</sup> In support of this Notice of Removal, Pizza Bar alleges as follows:

**BACKGROUND**

1. On July 30, 2018, plaintiff McKenzi Taylor (hereinafter, “Plaintiff”) filed her Class Action Petition for Damages (the “Complaint”), which is included in **Exhibit A** attached hereto. Plaintiff filed the Complaint on behalf of herself and a proposed class of similarly situated persons against Pizza Bar in the Circuit Court of Jackson County, Missouri, asserting putative class claims. This Action is captioned in the State Court as follows: *McKenzi Taylor, individually and on behalf of others similarly situated v. KC Vin, LLC d/b/a Pizza Bar*, Case No.

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<sup>1</sup> By removing this case, Pizza Bar does not waive, but expressly reserves, any and all defenses available to it.

1816-CV19883 (“Action”). Plaintiff did not serve Pizza Bar with a copy of the complaint when she commenced the Action.

2. Plaintiff alleges that Pizza Bar is liable to Plaintiff and each putative class member for statutory and regulatory violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (“TCPA”), 47 U.S.C. § 227, *et seq.*, and 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200, *et seq.* (Compl. ¶¶ 12-13, 41-45, Counts I-II.)

3. Specifically, Plaintiff asserts two causes of actions against Pizza Bar: Count I, Violations of the TCPA, 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A)(iii); and Count II, Violations of the TCPA, 47 U.S.C. § 227(c) and 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(d). (Compl. ¶¶ 61-81.)

4. Based on the allegations of the Complaint and for the reasons discussed below, Pizza Bar timely removes this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 (federal question).

#### **FEDERAL QUESTION JURISDICTION**

5. This Action may be removed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a) if it is one “of which the districts courts have original jurisdiction.”

6. This Court has original jurisdiction over Counts I and II of Plaintiff’s Complaint, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331, because they are causes of action arising under the laws of the United States, namely the TCPA, 47 U.S.C. § 227, *et seq.*, and its implementing regulations, 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200, *et seq.* (Compl. Counts I – II).

7. On January 18, 2012, the United States Supreme Court issued its decision in *Mims v. Arrow Fin. Servs., LLC*, 565 U.S. 368 (2012) and found, in a unanimous decision, that the TCPA’s grant of jurisdiction to state courts does not deprive federal district courts of federal-question jurisdiction over private rights of action with respect to claims arising out of the TCPA. *Id.* at 368.

8. Accordingly, removal of this Action is proper on the sole basis that, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331, this Court has federal question jurisdiction over Plaintiff's claims, and is timely and properly removed by the filing of this Notice.

**DEFENDANT HAS SATISFIED THE PROCEDURAL  
REQUIREMENTS FOR REMOVAL**

9. Because this Court may exercise original jurisdiction over this Action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 (federal question), removal is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a).

10. The Notice of Removal is timely filed under 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b) because Pizza Bar was served with the Complaint on January 17, 2019, and files this Notice of Removal within thirty (30) days of service. *See Murphy Brothers, Inc. v. Michetti Pipe Stringing, Inc.*, 526 U.S. 344, 347-48 (1999); *see also Groh v. JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.*, No. 14-CV-578-W-DGK, 2014 WL 4930649, at \*3 (W.D. Mo. Oct. 1, 2014) ("Formal service is required to trigger the removal statute's thirty-day time period.")

11. Defendant has not filed a responsive pleading in the Action.

12. Venue is proper in this District under 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a) because this District embraces the place where the removed action is pending.

13. In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a), all process, pleadings and orders received by Pizza Bar in this Action are annexed to this Notice of Removal as **Exhibit A**.

14. Contemporaneously herewith, Pizza Bar has given Plaintiff written notice of the filing of this Notice of Removal as required by 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d).

15. Pursuant to the requirements of 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d), Pizza Bar files a copy of this Notice of Removal with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Jackson County, Missouri. A copy of that notice is attached hereto as **Exhibit B** (without exhibits).

16. A copy of the Civil Cover Sheet is attached as **Exhibit C**.

17. This Notice of Removal is filed in the District Court of the United States for the district and division in which the case is pending.

WHEREFORE, Pizza Bar respectfully requests that the Action captioned as *Taylor v. KC Vin, LLC d/b/a Pizza Bar*, Case No. 1816-CV19883, pending in the Circuit Court of Jackson County, Missouri, be removed to this Court, and that this Court exercise its subject matter jurisdiction over this Action, and for such other relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

Dated: February 14, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jacqueline M. Sexton

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned attorney hereby certifies that on this 14th day of February, 2019, the foregoing was sent via electronic and First Class mail to counsel for Plaintiff:

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**KC Vin, LLC d/b/a Pizza Bar**